

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 9 Volume XXIII

April 27, 1994

Aristide to speak at graduation

by Jennifer Scull
Strobe staff

Jean-Bertrand Aristide, exiled Haitian president, will speak at the 98th graduation exercises on May 28 at 10:30 am on the college quadrange.

Thousands of parents, friends and relatives of 1994 graduates will gather to hear his commencement address. Nearly 1,000 baccalaureate and master's degrees will be awarded.

President Mara is excited about the arrival of Aristide. "At the macro level, I think it is important to recognize his status," Mara said. "At the micro level, we have not been doing much with Haiti in this area," adding his interest in a student exchange program with Haiti.

Aristide is expected to arrive on campus on May 27 for a series of educational, social and cultural events. At the commencement exercises, Aristide will receive an honorary degree from the college.

In the country's first democratic election in December of 1990, Aristide was elected president of Haiti. Less than a year later, he was overthrown by a coup d'état that dismantled the growing democratic movement and led to a time of unrest. The last several years, he

has lived in exile in Venezuela and Washington D.C.

A Roman Catholic priest, representing the poor and the dispossessed of Haiti, Aristide graduated in 1974 from the College of Notre Dame in Cap Haïtien and completed his novitiate studies at the Salesian seminary in the Dominican Republic. Returning to Haiti in 1975, he began studying philosophy at the Grand Séminaire Notre Dame and psychology at the State University of Haiti. Aristide also studied in Rome, Canada and Israel.

Prior to his presidential election, he founded an orphanage named Lafanmi Selavi, which housed and educated hundreds of street children in Haiti. The orphanage was attacked and burned, just like they did to the St. Jean Bosco Church that killed thirteen people. Shortly after, he was expelled from the Salesian Order.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide speaks eight different languages, plays several instruments and has written many books, including: "Why" (1978); "Raise the Table" (1986); "A Year After the Coup" (1992); "Aristide: The Autobiography" (1992); and "Theology and Politics" (1993).

Town meeting

by Jennifer Scull
Strobe staff

The Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Affairs sponsored an All Student Town Meeting on April 19 to hear students concerns and ideas about activities and athletics on campus.

Representatives from student organizations and various campus departments were present to hear the opinions of students, despite the low attendance.

Christine Corsello from Resi-

dence Life said the intent of the meeting was to tell students what is currently available for them in terms of involvement. Another objective was to attract more students, both commuters and residents, to campus activities.

The floor was opened to anyone who had questions, comments or concerns about the Fitchburg State College campus.

Christopher Bourdeau, SGA Public Information Director, spoke

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This untitled photograph by Fitchburg State student Eric Magiera is among the works on display as part of "Visions '94." Visions, a display of works by communications/media students at Fitchburg State College, will be on view until May 8 in the college's Campus Center Art Gallery.

Marijuana use rated high on student survey

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

In a recent alcohol and drug survey of over 300 FSC students, Marijuana ranked third next to alcohol and tobacco for both overall and consistent use. The overall use of marijuana by FSC students was 21 percent higher than the national usage, according to the survey.

"I have been hearing from students that marijuana is a growing problem on campus and the survey did support that," said Holly Kreidler-Phaneuf, the college's substance awareness coordinator.

Ten percent of the students surveyed admitted to using marijuana at least three times a week while 49 percent of the respondents reported never using marijuana within the last year.

The overall alcohol use, whether it was one time in the last year or

everyday was 89.7 percent. The national average for overall alcohol use was 87.4 percent, slightly under Fitchburg's. Only 8.4 percent reported never using alcohol in the last year while 30.5 percent said that they use it at least three times a week.

Fitchburg is 7.2 percent higher in the amount of students that drink ten or more drinks a week than the national figures. About 28 percent of the surveyed students indicated drinking more than ten drinks per week.

Most disturbing to Kreidler-Phaneuf is that 87 percent of the respondents were aware of the college's Drug and Alcohol Policies but 95.2 percent were not actively involved in efforts to prevent drug and alcohol use. Only 43 percent of the students surveyed were aware that the college had a drug and alcohol prevention program.

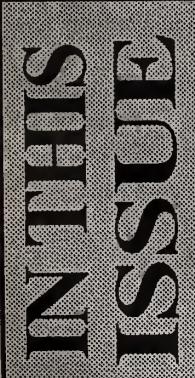
"I was pleased that students knew that the college was concerned about prevention efforts," said Kreidler-Phaneuf. "I was disappointed, not surprised, in the number of students that participate in those efforts."

Kreidler-Phaneuf said that the survey confirms that alcohol consumption occurs largely at private parties by 70 percent of the FSC students. Approximately 41 percent claim to use marijuana at private parties.

Twelve percent of the students surveyed reported missing more than six classes in the last year as a result of substance use and around ten percent have driven a car under the influence of a substance at least six times in the last year.

Fifty-nine percent of the Fitchburg State respondents indicated that they had a family mem-

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Silent floors end squeaks.

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Two students begin a human service program linking FSC and the community.

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Intramural hockey season underway.

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FSC police educates McKay pupils

by Audra Johnson
Staff writer

The McKay Campus School was awarded a \$2,000 grant funded by the United States Department of Education through the Governors Alliance Against Drugs. It combines drug education and anti-violence programs during this school year.

Patrolman Dan Kimbal, of the Fitchburg Campus Police, wrote the grant with help from FSC's Grant Center. The grant was originally petitioned for \$10,000 with programs geared towards grades one through six. Since \$2,000 was given, the program

was scaled down applying only to grades one through three.

Most of the funds were used to buy program materials and promotional propaganda.

The five week program reaches approximately 250 students from different ethnic and racial backgrounds around the local neighborhood.

Kimbal said, "Many of the students are from high-risk family settings," referring to violence and drugs.

Kimbal and Patrol Officers Karen Green and Rob Harrington take turns meeting with the children everyday for five weeks.

Each week there are different themes presented to the students through booklets that deal with drugs and violence.

The first week dealt with the difference between real life violence and television violence.

Future themes include: "Say No to Drugs," "What Could Happen," which explained the consequences of doing bad things to people and property, "Drugs Make You Do Bad Things," and "Angry Feelings and Making Smart Choices."

The books feature three child characters who face dilemmas concerning drugs and violence. The students, along with the char-

acters, make smart choices by learning lessons, rules or alternatives.

The officers use interactive role playing with the students so they feel comfortable with the characters and become more involved in the solutions.

Kimbal, Green and Harrington also interject community policing so the children can see a police official up close.

"It is only five weeks but you build a bond with the kids," says Kimbal.

Mr. Joe Renda, the Vice Principal of the McKay Campus School, is also actively involved in the programs. Renda specifi-

cally wanted an anti-violence program because it specifically addresses some of the problems that "any elementary school would have," says Kimbal.

The effect of the program cannot be charted, but Kimbal hopes McKay's end of the year statistics on incidents, such as playground fights, will be lower than last years.

This is the first time the Fitchburg Campus Police have received a grant for programs at McKay. Kimbal is hoping to receive more funding next year to continue these programs.

"If we can reach just one kid it would be great," says Green.

Gray White discusses black women

by Kris Ruberti
Staff writer

On April 20, in Ellis White Lecture Hall, Deborah Gray White spoke at the lecture entitled "The Public vs. The Private: The Lives of Black Women, 1896-1939."

Gray currently teaches African History at Rutgers University. She is also the author of several books including "Too Heavy a Load", which is what she based her lecture on.

According to Gray, women like Margaret Mary Washington, Norma Boyd and Charlotte Hawkins Brown tried to keep their personal lives private. "Black women developed a cult of se-

crecy," said Gray.

Charlotte Hawkins Brown had "deep insecurities about being black," while Norma Boyd thought that a light mulatto's role of mediator was special.

White people had misconceptions of black people, making it uneasy for a white person to accept a black person. Black women had a "profound distrust of whites," said Gray. It was not unusual for light skinned black women to try and pass themselves off as white.

"When I went to the archives, I did not find very much," Gray said. "When it came to diaries and letters, they were missing from the African American

women. They proved very reluctant to any material that may reveal themselves."

Women like Rosa Parks and Ida B. Wells, who in 1884 refused to be moved from their seats on a railroad car, were strong black women.

Mary Church Turrell, not feeling any guilt, passed for a white woman. According to Gray, "she traveled as a white woman to a place where she was going to give a speech about black women."

It was not unusual for black women to be secretive and hide their identities. "Dealing with the white woman was not easy. They had to put on an artificial face for whites."

black women



photo by Amie Dumont

Meeting cont from Pg 1

about advertisement and awareness of campus events. He finds that larger banners prove to be more effective than 8 1/2 by 11 sheets of paper. Bourdeau reacts to the lack of interest of students on campus by stating that "it is almost as if you need an announcement outside the door of an event."

Bourdeau, a resident student, also discussed the need for different activities. His suggestions included a drive-in movie on the quad minus the cars, less organized intramural sports and a parent/family weekend.

Alcohol and parties were also topics of interest throughout the meeting. Kelly Garrett, the Residence Director of Aubuchon Hall, feels that "events we have on campus are mostly non-alcoholic

and if they are, they are only for of-age people. Students are more drawn to clubs or parties where they can drink."

Ann Coyne, Associate Vice President of Student Affairs, is interested in reaching out to those students who do not go out all of the time.

Transporting students to and from the train station, hockey games and the Searstown mall and cinemas, the FSC Shuttle van has proven to be a positive addition to the campus. According to Reb Rebillard from the Campus Center, about 400 passengers boarded the shuttle van in the month of March.

Other topics discussed throughout the meeting were intramural activities, the campus post office, advertising and involvement in student activities and organizations.

SGA under new management

by Jennifer Scull
Strobe staff

Under the new leadership of Ed Puliafico, the Student Government Association (SGA) displayed professionalism and order while discussing and voting on new appointments and motions.

Ed Puliafico appointed Carleen Johnson, a Resident Assistant in Russell Towers, as the chairperson of the Physical and Sexual Awareness Task Force on campus. Feeling very strongly about this issue, she has been frustrated with the lack of accomplishment over the past few years of this task force.

"There is a lot that I want to do," explains Johnson. "I have already talked to different organizations on campus. Some of the officers (in Public Safety) have expressed a strong desire to give input into what this group does. So far there are ample students who are interested in lending their support."

"One of my main goals is to be

able to tap into the other offices on campus and for us to be a resource to the other personal relations," Johnson added. "I would like to bring in a lot of guest lecturers and do a lot of programming and really get the education out there."

Christopher Bourdeau, the SGA Public Information Director, is working on SGA publicity measures for next semester. Having contacted WXPL and The Strobe through the mail, his goal is to "update people on SGA and to get more interest in the student body."

WXPL has agreed to read weekly reports of SGA happenings as public service announcements. Bourdeau has asked The Strobe if he could submit information for a weekly column or to submit the column himself.

On the agenda was motion number one which was tabled before the changing of positions and since it was never untabled, it became null and void. Strong feelings on both ends brought

Bourdeau to re-submit this motion. It reads: "To alter the bylaws to read: To limit the terms of SGA council members to the amount of semesters in their academic program." Christopher Bourdeau, maker of this motion, said that "it was meant to assure that council members are focused on graduating in the amount of time their program dictates."

Erik Zeliski, SGA Vice President, said that if you do not fulfill all of your classes in four years that "this motion would prevent the experience of being on council your fifth year." Council voted on this motion and it was denied.

The Class of 95 created a motion to accept Brian Fagan as a representative for their class. Fagan is a member of the FSC hockey team and is Vice President Elect of the Associated Builders and Contractors chapter for next year. Vote was by secret ballot and he was unanimously voted in to take the position as class representative.

Correction:

The Panel on Toni Morrison included three members of the English department, not four as the article suggested. The article also omitted the name of Professor Sibyl Brownlee of the Social Science department who concluded and summed up the panel statements.

FSC to award honorary degrees

FSC press release

Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe, author of "Things Fall Apart," and Toshimasa Francis Wada, music director of the Thayer Symphony Orchestra, will be awarded honorary degrees as part of Fitchburg State College's 98th commencement exercises May 28.

Achebe is one of the most influential African intellectuals of the 20th century. "Things Fall Apart," written when he was 28, is the most widely taught African novel. It has sold more than 8 million copies and been translated into more than 50 languages.

The author of four other novels, Achebe has also written short stories, essays and children's books. His volume of poetry on the Biafran War, "Beware Soul Brother and other poems," won the first Commonwealth Poetry Prize in 1972. He is the founder of *Okike: An African Journal of New Writing*, published at the University of Nigeria.

Achebe was raised in a Christian evangelical family in the village of Ogidi, in Eastern Nigeria. After graduating from the University of Ibadan in 1953 he went to work for the Nigerian Broadcasting Corporation. He left his homeland following the national upheaval and massacres that led to the Biafran War.

His career as a university professor began in 1966 at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. He has also



Chinua Achebe



Toshimasa Francis Wada

taught at the University of Massachusetts and the University of Connecticut. He has held visiting professorships at a number of colleges and universities, and is currently Charles P. Stevenson Professor of Literature at Bard College.

A recipient of Nigeria's highest award for intellectual achievement, Achebe has received honors from throughout the world, including more than 20 honorary doctorates. He is an honorary fellow of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, a fellow of the Royal

Society of Literature in London and Neil Gunn Fellow of the Scottish Arts Council.

Toshimasa Wada has been music director and conductor of the Thayer Symphony Orchestra since 1983.

A native of Kirby, Japan, he studies music at an early age. In 1965 he came to the United States to pursue musical studies at The Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and was accepted as a trumpet player with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra. He was the third person to receive a master of music degree in conducting

from Catholic University.

Wada was chosen to study with Maestro Herbert Blomstedt, who invited him to tour with the Dresden Staatskapelle in 1983.

Wada was also invited to become director of the Holy Cross Chamber Orchestra and the Holy Cross Chamber Players, whose performance can be heard on Neuma compact disks.

Wada was the founding conductor of the Great Plains Concert Band in Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Worcester Youth Symphony Orchestra. He has been a regular guest conductor with the Worcester

Orchestra as part of the Worcester County Music Festival. He appeared in 1991 as guest conductor for Union College's Centennial Concert with the Nebraska Chamber Orchestra.

In addition to conducting, Wada is active as an educator and clinician on the junior high school, high school and college levels. He serves on the faculty of the Music Department at Atlantic Union College, where his responsibilities include teaching, conducting and computer music classes. He is also director of the AUC Chamber Orchestra.

Silent floor ends squeaks

by Mark LeBlanc
Contributing writer

Ever try to sneak past Mom and Dad's room after an extended night on the town, softly taking each step, only to have the floor belch out a horrific, sleep-abrupting squeak?

In a lecture sponsored by FSC's Associated Builders and Contractors chapter, John Carpenter, a technical representative from Trus Joist MacMillan Co., spoke about their engineered wood product line, including the "Silent Floor System", on April 14 in the Conlon Arts Building.

Advertised nationally, the "Silent Floor" structural system is guaranteed never to squeak for as long as the house is standing. This is possible, Carpenter said, because of Trus Joist MacMillan's patented TJI floor joist technology which has increased structural and economic efficiency.

Carpenter explained that the wood used is new growth wood fiber, which is rearranged to maximize the fiber's strength. This consistent, engineered wood product will over time expand less and hold more weight. This consistency leads to less problem areas in which squeaks can occur, and in the long run, a flatter floor.

Carpenter also described Trus Joist MacMillan's other products including their Micro-Lam laminated lumber, Timber Strand LSL rimboards, as well as Parallam parallel strand lumber beams, headers, columns and posts.

The speech concluded with a "how to" video for their products, showcasing ease of use and Trus Joist MacMillan's extensive customer oriented service program.



John Carpenter displays a section of the silent floor.

photo by Amie Dumont

For more news turn to page 14!

FEATURES

THE STROBE

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Islanders bring Caribbean culture

by Mary Falcone
Strobe staff

Is the city of Fitchburg more exciting than Washington D.C.? The members of the "de Village Community Club," a youth group from Basseterre, St. Kitts, seemed to think so. In fact, they wanted to cut their trip to Washington short so they could come back and spend more time in Fitchburg.

A Caribbean Night was held in the Campus Center Pub as a type of bon voyage party. Reggae music and dancing were intermingled with poems and speeches. This provided one last night of fun before the group departed for Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania on April 14.

Five citizens of St. Kitts, a small island nation in the Caribbean, visited Fitchburg as part of the Caribbean Exchange Program. During their trip to the States, they also explored Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. While in Fitchburg, the two men stayed with Dr. Charles Hetzel,

coordinator of the Caribbean Culture Class and Exchange Program. The three women lodged at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amico, parents of Kelly Amico who is a student here at FSC and who is in St. Kitts presently as part of the exchange program.

The five were able to raise enough money and were cleared by the American Embassy in Barbados. The youth group is composed of many members who have taken numerous FSC exchange students under their wings and made them feel at home during their stay in St. Kitts. "They've welcomed us in the past," said Hetzel. "It's our turn to show them a bit of our culture."

Donle Greaux, president of the "de Village Community Club," and the four other St. Kitts representatives spoke to Hetzel's classes about their lifestyles in St. Kitts. A video was shown of the island and students were given a chance to ask questions. The students were not the only ones who asked questions. The visitors were very curious about Ameri-



St. Kitts guests visit with FSC Professor John Gaumond.

can culture as well.

Before the group left Fitchburg to embark on their journey to Washington D.C., they spoke at some local area elementary schools. Among them was Fitchburg's own McKay Campus

School and The Fisher Hill School located in Orange.

"Their society is more laid back," said Valerie Walsh, a student in Hetzel's class. "It's not strictly scheduled as it is here." According to Greaux, life in St.

Kitts is more slow-paced than in the States. They are not overly concerned with time. Hetzel, who has spent time on the island, said, "I no longer feel guilty if I'm driving down the highway at 7:15 and I was supposed to be at a meeting at 7:00."

Student Profile: Kelly Amico

by Dr. Charles Hetzel
Contributing writer

Kelly Amico fell in love with Sandy Point Primary School in Sandy Point St. Kitts on her first visit to the island as part of the Caribbean Culture Class.

She will soon complete a five month internship as FSC's first international Caribbean Exchange student which is part of the new International Studies Program.

While in St. Kitts, Amico has lived in Sandy Point. This town consists of 4,000 people and is located on the island of St. Kitts. The tiny Caribbean nation is located Southeast of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Amico reports that she would recommend the experience to any mature student. The people

of St. Kitts have reportedly been warm and wonderful. According to Amico, the St. Kitts college students talk more in class, and the professors allow more argument, disagreement, and discussion than she finds at FSC. "Well, the whole culture is talkative," said Amico. "Communication is everything."

"The one thing that I still refuse to do is use the strap on the kids," said Amico. "I had to call in Mistress Grischard to help discipline some children and I felt like crying when they each got licks."

Amico hopes for the chance to return to St. Kitts. She says that they really work the college students hard at the College of Further Education, where she has been taking Caribbean Social Studies.

The rest of the program includes a Caribbean Literature In-

dependent Study which involves reading Caribbean novels, discussing the content with the local Caribbean people, and then reporting back to Dr. Hetzel in written reports.

She will be spending the remainder of her visit with Principal Mistress Grischard and teacher Mrs. Wiltshire's second grade class at Sandy Point Primary. "I still love the children and love the school," said Amico. "This has made me a better teacher and a better person. I will continue to study cultural issues as they relate to U.S. education."

Amico returns to FSC May 5th, and she will share her experience with all who will listen. "This was an experience of a lifetime," said Amico. Because of this great experience, Amico's parents are planning on retiring on the island.



Kelly Amico and Principal Marilyn Guischard pose outside Sandy Point Primary School, St. Kitts.

For more information on the Caribbean Culture Class, Seminar in St. Kitts, or Exchange Program contact Christina Sosa

in International Programs or Charles Hetzel in Education. The introductory class is being offered this fall.



Walk to benefit AIDS patients

by Randy Miner
Staff writer

"Silence equals death" according to Barry Ansin, the spokesperson for the 1994 AIDS Benefit Walk.

As founder of Common Sensitivity in Leominster, Ansin has strong feelings about ending the silence about AIDS in our society.

By taking the AIDS Benefit Walk to the main streets more funds will be produced as awareness is increased.

According to Ansin, the five mile walk is "an easy opportunity for people to step forward and break the silence in our community."

Since the walk began four years ago with only twenty-three participants, it has grown drasti-

cally. Last year totaled about 500 walkers with over \$26,000 raised. Ansin anticipates thousands of participants to help coordinate and participate this year. There will even be a walk, Ansin calls it, "A walking symphony orchestra."

With the money raised, 90 percent of it goes to the HIV patients within the Worcester County. Such benefits could include food, money for rent, or

more importantly, health care. The remaining 10 percent will go to AIDS research.

This year Ansin is working closely with SGA here at Fitchburg State. Together they are encouraging students to support the cause. Ansin says, "Action comes from concern and this is the opportunity to express it. It's very simple, and makes a huge difference!"

This year's Benefit Walk is scheduled for September 25, 1994, beginning at Coolidge Park in Fitchburg and ending at Doyle Field in Leominster.

Numerous positions are available. Handing out flyers around campus, being a musician in the walking band, or just being one of the hundreds walking. For information or to sign up for pledge sheets, call 840-HOPE.

Students "Bridge the Gap" with community

by Kristi Widberg
Strobe staff

Peter Cardillo balances the challenges of being a human services major with playing pool.

However, his partner is not a college student, but a local youth paired with Cardillo through the "Bridging the Gap" program.

"Most of our time is focused on having a good time," says Cardillo about his activities with his teen. "His eyes light up when he sees me and that feels good...I'll miss him when it's time to say goodbye." He added that they often play pool in the FSC game room.

"Bridging the Gap" implemented on February 1, 1994, pairs FSC students with teens in LUK, an agency that aids teenagers who have been taken out of their homes because of abusive or neglectful parents.

According to the program manual, the goal of "Bridging the gap" is "to provide adolescents from LUK Inc. with a supportive relationship involving Fitchburg State College students in which they can explore dreams, aspirations, and barriers."

Cardillo and Melissa Petrillo, FSC Human Services majors, and Justina Virgilio, Program Director at LUK, created, coordinated, and implemented the program this semester. "It's like a big brother, big sister program," says Cardillo. "That's their name le-

gally. We call ours 'Teens and Volunteers'."

"Bridging the Gap" allows FSC student volunteers to be role models and provide friendship to teens 14 to 18 years old. The program is a "step towards normalization," according to Petrillo. Petrillo adds that the teens are always doing things in groups at their program, but this gives them "a chance to have a normal part of life outside of a program."

Students as well as teens must fill out a questionnaire in order to be paired up. The pairs are female to female and male to male. Students and teens are matched up according to their compatibility on their questionnaires.

Students volunteer one to three hours a week for the duration of one semester to "Bridging the Gap". They must attend a 1 to 1 1/2 hour training session in which they are educated about LUK and situations that might arise during their service. Human Services policies such as mandated reporting and confidentiality are also discussed at this training session.

The main office of LUK is located on Day Street in Fitchburg. Other residential homes incorporated into the LUK program are also within walking distance of FSC. These residential homes provide shelter for the teens and are monitored 24 hours by primary care givers. As LUK's Statement of Purpose says, "each client is encouraged to develop

and realize personal life goals both long and short term."

"The bottom line is that there are kids who don't have big brothers or sisters and want them," says Cardillo. The FSC students provide these teens with support in their reach for normal lives. "'Bridging the Gap' empowers teens to go out into the community to live fully functional lives despite their backgrounds."

Petrillo stresses that students have to be committed if they volunteer in this program. "The volunteers we've had this semester have put so much time and effort into their work," she says.

The activities that the pairs of students and teens participate in are up to them. The pairs must take into consideration the costs for what they plan to do because they must be responsible for all costs involved. Presently, "Bridging the Gap" is not funded.

Petrillo and Cardillo in conjunction with LUK plan to write a grant this summer in order to obtain funding for "Bridging the Gap". Once the grant is written, they plan to approach different organizations who are interested in funding a program such as this one.

With this program, Petrillo and Cardillo hope to help "bridge the gap" between the school and the community as well as between students and teens who need help. Petrillo feels that the program is a rewarding learning experience



Peter Cardillo and Melissa Petrillo

photo by Kristi Widberg

which "helps you grow as a person". She adds that "it feels good to give something back to the community in which we live."

"It's a good experience for all," says Cardillo. "There are a lot of students who are not Human Services majors who have gotten a lot out of this. The kids are touched by the volunteers in the program." The volunteers provide individual support and attention as well as a good role model to the teens when they need it.

The money obtained through a possible grant will go into the Human Services Club treasury who will take over the program in the fall. For those interested in obtaining more information about the program or who are interested in volunteering, please attend the Human Service Club meetings on Mondays at 10:30 in Percival (P1). For those who cannot attend, write to the Human Services Club, Box #6753, Campus Mail.

FSC reviews smoking areas

by Mary Sperazzo
Staff writer

Students sit casually, inhaling their cigarettes in the Commuter Cafeteria in the Hammond building at FSC.

There are still designated smoking areas for students and faculty. Proposals, however, have been written to review the smoking areas at the college.

According to Dr. Tod Slone, Chairman of the Long Range Planning Committee, a proposal was written to the All College Committee (ACC) by Dr. Harry Semerjian. The proposal requests a review of smoking areas in halls, corridors and spaces adjacent or contiguous to classrooms and offices.

Semerjian's argument is that secondhand smoke is hazardous to one's health and at FSC there



An FSC student sits in the Smoking section of the Commuter Cafeteria.

photo by Aimie Dumont

are designated smoking areas that are close to offices and classrooms. This makes users of these offices and classrooms subject to an intense concentration of second

hand smoke.

According to Ed Puliafaco, President of SGA, the Leominster Tobacco Commission recently re-

ceived complaints about smoking in non-smoking areas of the campus pub. An inspection of the pub showed that FSC was not in

any violation of their responsibility of providing smoking areas.

A memorandum dated 1-21-93 stated that Worcester State College would go smoke-free on June 1, 1993. Smoking is prohibited in all buildings and offices on campus. The college offered the students that did smoke the opportunity to be involved in college-supported smoking cessation programs on campus.

In order to obtain a more accurate number of the smoking and non-smoking population at FSC, a survey may be available by registration time in November. This could also afford the opportunity for students to state their views of whether smoking areas should be banned altogether.

More discussions will take place today at 3:30 at the ACC meeting.

Social Security Claims Representative. Assist people in applying for benefits. Position available in Fitchburg. Must be citizen, Bachelor's degree with 3.45 GPA or top 10% of class, bilingual (English/Spanish) helpful. Exam available for those without 3.45 GPA. Salary: \$23,960 to start with growth potential. Deadline: May 27, 1994. Contact Mr. Ronald Grzelak, Social Security Administration, Fitchburg at 508-345-0325 for further information.

APARTMENT: modern two bedroom, microwave, stove, cable, carpeting, washer/dryer connections, walking distance from college, backyard for sunning, parking, \$420/month plus utilities, call 343-7071.



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THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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From The Editor's Desk...

This is it. This is the last time I'll do it. I promise.

No, it's not the last time I'll write this column (sorry!) or the last semester that I'll be Editor-in-Chief, but it is the last issue of The Strobe for the semester.

This last issue brings a lot of mixed feelings: relief, anxiety, happiness, and a heck of a lot less to worry about. The semester has been a long one for most if not all of us here on The Strobe staff. For me, the semester consisted of bugging editors and writers for their stories, trying to meet deadlines, and trying not to freak out when things didn't go too well. More or less, I made it through the semester and now look forward to a long summer vacation ahead of me.

I'd like to thank the staff of The Strobe for putting up with me during the rough times when things were a little messy. I'd also like to thank the college community for reading and responding to the articles we have published. It's been a long journey, but in itself a rewarding journey, the kind your mom tells you you will laugh about

someday. (I only wonder how many years that will be for me.)

There are a few valuable lessons that I've learned from being in charge of the campus newspaper. The first is that the entire staff is a team and it takes a lot of patience and effort by all members of that team to keep it going. As I've said before, there were times when there were stories missing or none at all, but things worked out in the end. The team pulled together and produced a paper of which the college can be proud.

There is also the lesson of being a good editor. You've got to know what your own limits are and what the potential of your staff is. You've got to set goals for yourself as well as for your staff. Because this was my first semester as Editor-in-Chief, I did not see this so clearly at first, but, believe me, I learned really quick. I learned that others have limits as well and that there were different levels of commitment given by different people.

Perhaps the most important lesson I learned was how to deal with

problems, in the forms of articles, photos and people. Trying to fill a paper with good articles and advertising is not as easy as it may appear. It takes a lot of time, patience, and effort. It takes a lot of imagination to fill white space with more than a few cartoons. It also takes an easy-going production person and a fun copyediting department to keep my sense of humor intact.

I'm not trying to convince you that The Strobe is the best college newspaper around; you can make your own decision. However, it is a good newspaper. I'm merely trying to show you that the staff of The Strobe works hard to bring you a solid newspaper each week. The staff this semester has been a good group to work with and I thank each one of them for their contributions.

For the college community, if anyone has suggestions to improve The Strobe or wishes to become more involved in journalism, please write to The Strobe box #6705 or stop me or any other member of the staff. We'd love for you to become part of our team!

Thursday: stop, dream, and yell!

by Eric Julius Magiera
Contributing writer

"raise the window, listen to the rain... smell the rain, it's in the air like sweet perfume" - Edie Brickell

Those who know me find that I have the tendency to answer questions with the word "Thursday". I do this because my father once taught me a valuable lesson, one I shall never forget. Any question I had, he would answer with the word "Thursday". After stopping to pause for a moment in question, I would restate my question and receive the answer I was looking for, or at least one I believed. After about seventeen years or so, I finally figured out what it was he meant.

I often get asked the hidden meaning of the word, and my reply is don't think about it, and it will come to you. What usually happens is that person would walk

away thinking about what I just said and be puzzled even more. Life is confusing enough; don't add to it by confusing yourself.

My father taught me that we all needed to just stop, slow down to a halt, even for just a few seconds, and let our minds catch up to the rest of the world. It's surprising just how relaxed one can become. Don't sit there and say you don't have the time to stop and relax, because in the same amount of time it takes to say "I can't believe how much s**t I have to get done before tomorrow", you could have stopped, closed your eyes, sensed the air about you and let the tension flow outward in an eruption of voiceration.

Too much of the world's frustration comes from people who are capable of this, but allow themselves to be fooled into that. Just keep your feet firmly rooted in the soil, yet allow your mind to soar freely in the heavens above.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Though I certainly felt honored to be on page one as one of the participants in the recent debate on admission standards (The Strobe, April 13, 1994), I do want to put in a slight rejoinder about being misquoted.

I did not "equivocate" an FSC degree with a high school diploma. Such a view (besides misusing the verb "equivocate": I "averred"; I did not "equivocate") is absurd. What I said was that many observers (among them Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. of Harvard) have

opined that today's BA degree is the equivalent of a high school diploma thirty years ago. Certainly, a much less nonsensical observation, and one that I stand by.

I admire many students at FSC, but I stand by my sense (buttressed by GPA and experience) that the general standards (knowledge and skills) have fallen off consistently in the last four years. We can change that around.

Best always,
Bill Keough
English Department

Utilize your resources at FSC

by Eric Jackel
Strobe staff

For the last time, I peck and poke at the letters of this rickety old keyboard. The last Strobe issue, my last semester, my days at Fitchburg State College dwindling more quickly than I can count them. It is with mixed emotions that I stare at this monitor (which I usually cannot stand the sight of) this evening.

I tried to think of some way to go out with an inspiring and prophetic message to those of you who actually read this paper for what it is worth ("No Personals again!! Damn!!"), and I believe it is worth quite a lot. Not so much for what it is or what it has been, but rather about what it could be. I'll get back

to this in a bit. Anyway, I have not proven myself to be prophetic, nor inspiring, but there is one more thing I'd like to say before this is all over and I no longer have to worry about this "e" key that sticks.

Earlier today, we received here in The Strobe office the latest compilation of the Tufts University Daily, their everyday newspaper. This, folks, is an impressive piece of work. Granted, many of these students work only on the paper for a semester as a practicum study, and when your tuition bill is in five figures, well, then, I suppose you'd expect a little more. It sort of seemed to humble the accomplishments of this paper.

Despite this, I found a message

within my thoughts, one that I found significant enough to share with whoever would like to read this. Here at FSC, we do not have some of the resources, financial and otherwise, to excel by the same standards as other schools, but the operative phrase here is "same standards". Could you compare a Ferrari with a Yugo? Probably not, but it just may be the Ferrari that skids off the road in a snowstorm while the Yugo hugs the pavement faithfully. We do have valuable resources here, and this paper is one of them. I feel strongly as though we, as a student body, tend to ignore our resources gravely, and we're no better for it.

In the past few months, we've

seen our president come under heavy fire for Whitewater, Bosnia, Somalia, Hardings, Bobbitts, North and South Korea, and the two-point-conversion added to the National Football League rule book. Life swirls around and about us at a dizzying pace, and we just tend to hide our heads in the sand and let it do as it pleases. Why? I think it's because most of us are so afraid to make some waves and do something that we choose apathy for the wrong reasons. We feel as though some problems are just too out of control to even think about. We don't use the aforementioned resources that are available to us, and this is a crying shame. As my college career winds down, I find

myself already asking questions about my achievements and success. Occasionally, someone will see me on campus and say, "Hey, I liked your article", or even that they read my stuff every week. I thank those people for the confidence that they have given to me.

For those of you who have time left, even just one year, make it valuable and something that you'll be proud of. Make it significant time, not another wasted year, by setting goals and achieving them. Life (and particularly college) is too short to waste. Have a good time, but don't bury your face in the sand and move on. If you start doing that now, then you may never be able to do anything else.

FSC should raise standards

by Eric Jackel
Strobe staff

I was at a party once during my senior year of high school, just about the time of year that people begin to ponder and, oh yes, worry about where they'll be going to college. Being the youngest of six children, there wasn't exactly a huge lump of money waiting in the bank for me to pay tuition bills with, so grades or not, I was bound for a Massachusetts state school. Even my youngest sister, the valedictorian of her class and the proud owner of near-perfect Scholastic Aptitude Test scores, was a University of Lowell undergraduate at the time.

Back to the party.

I ran into this kid I knew, sort of a friend of a friend, and sure enough, we began the old college conversation. I told him where I'd applied, who I'd heard from, where I'd gotten in, and as sort of an end note I added, "Oh, and I got into Fitchburg State. Big deal, though, huh?" He looked at me oddly and said "They rejected me." Open mouth, insert foot. The bottoms of my Reebok hightops (give me a break, it was high school) tasted pretty sour that day.

At the time, that convinced me that I was going to a pretty good school, one that doesn't just make sure you have a pulse and then assign you to a room in Russell Towers. After spending four years here, I am inclined not to agree with that anymore. Recent discussions to raise the academic standards policies at FSC, though too late for my benefit, are certainly a positive step in the right direction.

I have heard our sacred institution referred to as "the fourth branch of UMASS that never was." With time I have learned to shrug off these comments, mostly by pronouncing "Fitchburg" as closely as possible to "Pittsburgh" ("Oh, you go to U-PITT?").

The school's reputation goes out the window each day classes are held. I see some students who skip classes, and I will more than willingly admit to skipping my share of them. However, most of these students would not be able to handle themselves academically if they were to go to all their classes. You know who I'm talking about (the multiple academic probation club). Give us a break, will you? This is Fitchburg State, and criteria for failing a class here essentially involves study habits that border on the at-

tention span of a coma patient. This is not difficult to understand, folks.

I have no affection whatsoever for the ultimate importance of SAT scores. It is not my opinion that one Saturday morning of someone's life should determine or affect the remainder of it. However, there are several other ways to judge a potential undergraduate and determine if he or she is qualified enough to become a college student. I do agree with Professor Bisk's statement about how a student who scores less than 400 on the verbal section is not ready for college, as I see reading and writing to be fundamental skills in any area of study. As a Writing Skills Center tutor for a year, I saw far too many people struggling with things that should be second nature to someone receiving their "higher education".

What this is all about, summed up well by Dr. Keough, is quality. Quality will increase competition, healthy competition, in the classroom. Quality will raise an employer's eyebrows when reading a resume. Quality will bring out the best in people. And until FSC dedicates some effort into raising standards, we will still be the "Uncommon Public College", but the joke will be on us.

Classroom chatter annoys

by Leo Bray
Staff writer

As we approach the end of another semester, we forge the fond memories we will carry with us for the rest of our lives. We often can't imagine what our lives would be like if we hadn't come to FSC and met all the friends we've made here. Unfortunately, there are also some people at this school who can make us wish we never came here. These people are those who behave as if they were in high school, or even junior high.

I just started to think of these children as a major problem this semester. There seems to be a lot more of them around than ever before. I'm referring to people who constantly talk during class. Now, we all talk a bit during class from

time to time. Some people, however, never shut up. This annoys the rest of us because it distracts us from what is going on in the class. I'm not saying that I pay complete attention every minute of every class, but I should be able to do so if I wanted to.

I've noticed this to the extent of a problem in more than one of my classes. Often, a professor will notice someone babbling away and ask them to stop. Unfortunately, this is the exception rather than the rule. In most cases, the children are adept at their distraction and do not make it visible or audible from across a classroom.

The height of this idiocy amazes me. There are actually people in my classes who pass notes back and forth to each other. It's clear from their attitude towards the pro-

fessors that these notes are not about the topic at hand in class. These are people who are legally considered adults, who are acting like a bunch of twelve-year-olds. They are obviously good friends who talk often, yet they can't wait less than an hour to share their petty thoughts again. Their immature behavior bugs many classmates; I've often heard other students complain about this problem.

So if you're one of these annoying chatterboxes or prolific note-writers, do the rest of us a favor: shut up. Save it for later. If you're out there saying, "He's in my _____ class. I wonder if he's talking about me?" I am. If you don't want to pay attention, at least allow other people the opportunity to do so. If you want to shoot the breeze with a friend for an hour, skip the class.

We are Time's servant

by Eric Julius Magiera
Contributing writer

It's 5:00 a.m. You wake up early to study for your 8:30 a.m. exam and figure a few more minutes of sleep won't hurt, then the next thing you see is 8:01 a.m. on your alarm clock. Where did those three hours go and why does time have such a grasp of our lives?

Time, partly taken from Webster's Dictionary, is the existence as a succession of states, hour, duration, period, opportunity, occasion and leisure. But what is time really? Time, in my opinion, is a

device developed by our ancestors to give an excuse to why they were late to the weenie roast at the Pompeii Pavilion. Our lives are wrapped so closely around the clock, we have in a way become its servant. Just as a dog can be taught to answer to a bell, we ourselves have been conditioned to have the desire to exit a classroom, the closer that minute hand gets to twenty past, or make a vague attempt to go to class at half past the hour. People, like myself, have gotten so caught up in the passage of time, that their whole lives revolve around a date book, and if it gets lost, they

wouldn't know what to do next.

Procrastination cannot be blamed for all the stress and pressure we place ourselves under, some, but not all. Watching the minutes pass you by while trying to get the courage to face the bitterly cold air outside the warm, snuggly blankets covering yourself in the morning is one form of procrastination.

Time is a term given to the forward motion of all particles of matter in the known universe. Mechanically, time can be slowed down, but its existence will always remain. By this I mean, look at a

Nothing is Black and White

by Paul Williamson
Contributing writer

I grew up with mixed emotions on being mixed. Growing up in Kansas City was hard. Even harder than that was being black. Yet harder was being mulatto. In a place where constant reminders of race and racial separation was obvious, I felt stuck, left out, empty, and most of all I felt alone.

Race was obviously a dominant element in shaping children's minds in the ghetto. Whites were looked at as being oppressors and blacks thought of themselves as victims of discrimination. I am only speaking from personal experience, so don't think I am generalizing. However, these images were taught to me and I lived by them even though I questioned my own validity as being a black person.

My mother used to say to me that black is beautiful, so I was beautiful. I wished that everyone else showed the sensitivity that she displayed. I was half-and-half, but my mother would say to me that it made no difference because in her eyes I was "All black 'cuz you all mine."

Unfortunately, I never got my wishes of acceptance by whites or my black "brothers and sisters". I didn't look anything like a typical white boy and I was too light to pass as black. I was coming apart because every time I looked for comfort from either race, I was rejected. I was given the impression from whites that I had no place asking to be part of them as long as I was who I was. I was brought up knowing ahead of time that they wouldn't want me. My grandmother once said to me, "If they wanted you they would have kept you."

Here is where the situation took an even uglier turn for me. The race that taught me to be who I was rejected me because I didn't look enough like them. Mulatto people are often called "high yellow niggers." "High yellow?" I thought to myself. "What is high yellow?" I found no comfort in this label so I sought out the meaning of it. I found that it was another name for light-skinned or mixed black people. Was I supposed to be content with this even though it is an obvious attempt to separate me from the rest?

Here is where the true dilemma starts and ends. I grew up in a black neighborhood, went to a predominately black school, and still felt isolated because of my color.

If I was going to be accepted by white or black people, who, besides my family, was going to take me in? In a place where black pride was strong and unity was on every black person's tongue, I was made to feel like an outsider. Was I able to say "nigger" in a passive manner with my black cronies without having the fear of offending them because I wasn't pure? In a neighborhood where Caucasians were rebuked and despised, should I have felt offended then? Did I have the right to get angry whenever I heard a "Nigger Joke?" Did I even qualify to fill in "Black, not Hispanic" as my race on S.A.T. and other exams and questionnaires who wanted to know what I was. Where do I belong?

Today, these questions are not as tormenting as they were when I was trying to figure out who I was. Now, I know that my identity is not based upon the actions of a group, but on my own actions, thoughts and feelings. I have seen how cruel and tender both can be and I won't let one side of me hate the other. Both sides have prejudiced and hateful people; both have loving and understanding people. So now I live my life getting the best of both worlds. I can't love just black people or just white people, or expect to be accepted by everyone in these races. I have come to realize that no matter what my color is, I am not going to limit my love to just one race.

clock ticking away, with its hands moving around. The image of the hands is coming towards you at the speed of light. If you moved away from the clock at the speed of light or faster, time will have the appearance of stopping or beginning to move backwards, but in that same instance, the existence of time, relative to you, is still moving forward.

But since that's impossible to accomplish now, sit back in a chair, turn on the Price is Right and eat a twinkie.

I think we have to get over this dependence on time and start thinking on different realms of reality, because life can be a waste of time if you let it dominate you, and time is a waste of life if it does dominate you. So spend your time getting wasted on life's existence, and have the time of your life.

Fraizer's Coffeehouse debut

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

Singer/guitarist Mitch Fraizer made his first FSC appearance on April 10 at Coffeehouse, sponsored by Programs Committee.

Fraizer's repertoire for the most part consisted of old classics from standard artists such as James Taylor, Neil Young, Simon and Garfunkel, as well as a medley of Beatles hits. The insertion of newer songs (U2's "One" among others) certainly helped to liven up his double set performance.

The talent of Fraizer was quite

apparent musically as well as vocally. His renditions of songs originally composed for instruments other than the guitar, such as Billy Joel's "Piano Man", came off without a hitch. But the truly impressive aspect of Fraizer's performance was heard in his voice. Whether it was Taylor, Joel, Cat Stevens, or Bono he was covering it didn't matter, as he vocally met the challenge in the diversity of styles of each singer.

Even in the face of adversity the guitarist remained calm. Not once, but twice did a string on his guitar break. Both times he was prepared with humorous and sometimes grotesque songs to sing or memorable

tunes (i.e. Mayberry R.F.D. theme song) to whistle while he worked....on his guitar.

"When I get bigger I'll have guitar-types to throw me a new guitar," said Fraizer while restringing his instrument.

Fraizer's vast list of popular songs, used by most coffeehouse folk artists, endeared him to his receptive Pub audience. Old standbys like "American Pie," "Margaritaville," C.S.N.'s "Our House" and a fulfilled request by FSC alumni Dean Rachupka for "Brown Eyed Girl" drew hearty applause from an appreciative crowd.



photo by Amie Dumont

"The Edith Whartons" commands center stage

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

Hilarious, dramatic, and emotionally affecting are just a few ways to describe Dr. Erwin Pally's play "The Edith Whartons", which performed in Percival Auditorium on April 12.

As a scriptwriter Pally displays a command of staged dialogue. With a certain grace for wordplay he has his audience roaring with laughter. When the moment calls for drama he is able to conjure up a believable exchange between the characters, silencing the laughter with nervous anticipation.

Set in 1908, the play takes place at The Mount in Lenox, Massachusetts, the home of the Pulitzer prize winning author, Edith Wharton, played by Dossy

Peabody.

Peabody, an actress with many film, stage, and television credits to her name, brought to the stage a professional performance that evening. Her ability to portray a sharp-witted, independent, and conniving woman of the early 20th century was quite impressive. A strong supporting cast of actors aptly held together the boundaries of Edith's existence as presented in Pally's two act play.

The action centers around Edith's affair with Morton Fullerton (Peter Bubriski), a journalist who caters to the likes of the rich and famous. Actor, William Lacey, plays the straight laced writer Henry James, a competitor and friend to Edith, who finds himself in the midst of this love affair. Teddy Wharton, Edith's husband, played by Richard McElvain, proves to be the bumbling foil to his

wife's plans to run off with Fullerton to Paris.

McElvain, who directed an earlier staged reading of "The Edith Whartons", played, with a heightened sense of reality, the roll of Teddy, a brash, middle-aged man with an ego complex. In the end, Teddy's odd behavior is redeemed in the eyes of his wife, who realizes his love for her. And even in this touching scene, McElvain's acting was up to par for the dramatic touch that was called for.

From start to finish, Pally's "The Edith Whartons" proved to be worthy entertainment and was by far more enjoyable than anything currently playing at the local cinema. Partial funding for the play was provided by Fitchburg State College and, in this writer's opinion, was money well spent.

Volunteers Concert

by Amie Alden-Wudyka
Contributing writer

The Fitchburg State College Band held a Spring Concert to honor area volunteers on April 6. The concert was sponsored by the Humanities Department and The Council of Directors of Volunteers Services. Dr. Frank Patterson directed the band.

The sounds of Big Band music filled the auditorium. The opening number was a lively "Washington Post" by John Philip Sousa. Selections from the Broadway musical "A Chorus Line" included "What I Did for Love" and "One Singular Sensation." The Council of Directors, President Sharon Strzalkowski and Vice President Gus Stewart presented a check to the FSC Band before the second half of the show.

The Jazz Ensemble played various songs from the seductive swing of the 1920s Harlem Jazz sounds. Songs included "The Harlem Nocturne" with a saxophone solo from FSC student Rob Tuttle. Other pieces included "Read My Lips" with various solos from the sax, trumpet and bass guitar sections. "The Orange Colored Sky" featured a vocal solo by FSC Band member Rene Bergeron. The last number for the evening was "Southside Shuffle" which also featured various musical solos.

The opera 'Carmen' performed at FSC

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

On April 10, Weston Auditorium witnessed the cultural grandeur of the opera, as "Carmen" was presented by the Salisbury Lyric Opera Company and the Symphony Pro Musica.

The full-house was treated to an excellent production of Georges Bizet's adaptation of the story of the same name by the French novelist, Prosper Merimee.

The story-line follows a

haughty gypsy woman, Carmen, who treats love like a day old newspaper, something that was once interesting, but the next day is useless. She falls in love with Don Jose, a corporal in the Spanish army. After casting a spell over him with her gypsy magic, Don Jose falls madly in love with her and discards his feelings for Micaela, a virtuous peasant girl who he had planned to marry.

Carmen toys with the soldier's emotions and when he does not concede fully to her she rebukes any further professions of his love to her. Don

Jose becomes enraged when he learns that Carmen has taken up with an toroeador while he was serving time in prison for helping the gypsy woman escape from the authorities. In the final act, after desperately pleading for her love to no avail, Don Jose decides that if he can't have her no one will. And with his dagger he makes sure of that.

The original "Carmen" was sung in French, while this production opted for an American translation, which did help to clarify some

of the action for those who were not familiar with this certain opera. Although to hear the opera performed in its intended language would have been undoubtedly just as enjoyable, if not more so.

One might question some of the cast of main characters as far as their suitability for their roles. A few of them seemed a bit too mature in years for the person they were supposed to be playing. But what they lacked in youthfulness they more than made up for in talent, which in the end is where the true quality of

an opera lies.

Strong performances were turned in by leading lady, Margaret Tartaglia as Carmen, and James Busterud as Don Jose. Most notable was an extended and delicate aria by Pamela Murana who played the forlorn Micaela.

Mention must also be made of the terrific prop work and stage decoration. The huge and elaborate set-ups added to the illusion and made each scene that much more believable.

"Give it up and go back to college."

- James Ihia

'With Honors' falls short of the grade

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

Soundtrack from the movie: "With Honors"
*** 1/2

It is possible to cheer and cringe at the same time, as this writer, a true "Led Head", did when he saw that Led Zeppelin's "Thank You" had been covered by Duran Duran on the as-of-yet unreleased soundtrack to the movie "With Honors" coming out April 29, just in time for graduation.

Without wasting any time, Joe Pesci has popped into another film, one that, from the soundtrack, at least sounds like it will get better reviews than the currently flopping "Jimmy Hollywood".

Some of the bigger names in music have contributed to what is surprisingly a fairly decent movie soundtrack, as far as soundtracks go anyhow.

The afore mentioned cover of the

Zeppelin classic basically stays true to the original, with just a notion of the 90s hinted in the mix.

Madonna provides the movie theme song, "I'll Remember", which is probably the weakest entry on this CD, other than Babble's "Tribe", a song that sounds like something done by INXS.

The Cult lend their popular hit "She Sells Sanctuary" and Kristin Hersh's depressing "Your Ghost" appears with REM's Michael Stipe providing back-up vocals.

Lyle Lovett, the luckiest man in the world, croons a sweet rendition of the Irving Berlin classic "Blue Skies", which proves to be the best cover tune on a CD full of them.

Lindsey Buckingham's "On the Wrong Side" is apparently an original, but sounds so much like John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is Over)" that Yoko may have legitimate grounds for a lawsuit. That aside, it's not a bad song. Try it around the holidays.

Mild disappointments are to be

found on "With Honors": Candlebox adds an acoustic "Cover Me" to the soundtrack. Mudhoney's "Run Shithead Run" sounds like 60s surf music and is dismissible as being purely humorous while Belly's contribution, "It's Not Unusual", feels like a late 70s Blondie tune. These artists could've picked better songs.

The smoothest number belongs to Grant Lee Buffalo, whose "Fuzzy" has a tolerable country western/blues drawl to it, quite reminiscent of a Rolling Stones' attempt at country music without Jagger's ridiculous mockery of a midwesterner's accent.

All in all the selections are fairly tight, if not all original. The few high points make this a better than average movie soundtrack. The music does hint towards a generic twenty-somethings type of film, so use your better judgment when it comes out. Are you going to save the seven bucks or spend it to see another "Reality Bites"?

by Leo Bray
Staff writer

United Future Organization
*** 1/2

"There is no new thing under the sun." This may have been true when the Book of Ecclesiastes was written, but I'm not sure this maxim will survive the 90's. United Future Organization's new self-titled release certainly argues against it.

While this release has no new musical elements or influences, the group, along with numerous guest artists, blends elements of traditional and newer jazz, light-to-medium street funk, island rhythms and tribal music nicely. The result is a wide variety of sounds on nine refreshingly different tracks.

Four of the tracks contain little or no lyrics, and a fifth is entirely in French. Some instrumental tracks are sprinkled with bits of whispered non-English which I couldn't identify. Stylistically and topically, the album playfully

romps over a large territory, from numerous messages of brotherhood to Jack Kerouac's spoken description of a jazz club and its inhabitants. However, with the exception of guest siren Monday Michiru on "My Foolish Dream", all the vocals are subdued enough to not interrupt one's studying. This album is perfect for final exam preparation — too lively to let you nod off into your book, but not overly distracting.

The strength of this group lies not only in the variety of styles it manages to blend, but in the instruments and vocal styles necessary to do this. Besides some very strong singing, guitar and percussion, featured artists work wonders with chanting, an alto sax, flute, trumpet, vibraphone and even an accordion. I know I won't be believed on that last one — you have to hear it to believe it.

With the record store categories of music increasingly overlapping, groups such as United Future Organization distinguish themselves by working outside the expectations of listeners. If you have an open mind and need some studying tunes, this album is a must-buy.

Crow combines pop and jazz

by Gina Procopio
Staff writer

Sheryl Crow: "Tuesday Night Music Club"

Sheryl Crow is an artist that is hard to squeeze into any one category. Her new CD, Tuesday Night Music Club, conveys a mesh of sound from songs with a hint of pop or jazz to an almost bluesy style as in "No One Said It Would Be Easy".

Crow herself uses "funky" and "groovy" to describe her Club. This release has a definite groove to it with a mellow flow. The lyrics aren't over-processed into a garbled mess like a lot of what is on the radio. Each word is distinct and gets its point across. Popular themes like love are given clear detail. Crow also gives a totally new slant on areas like politics, radiation, the Serbs and Clarence

Thomas as seen in "The Na-Na Song".

From the cover art, Crow may be confused with a country singer in her denim shirt and the neon cafe sign that adorns the back cover. This release is no hound dog story rest assured. At times, Crow sings upbeat, quick, flowing songs and other times tunes come with a sad air. The music is on the subtle side, using classical piano, guitar and trumpet, played by Crow's father on "We Do What We Can." Songs like "Run, Baby, Run," "Leaving Las Vegas," and "I Shall Believe" make the album. Each has its own distinct sound and flavor that capture the feel of the collection from fast and hip to slow and sad.

"Tuesday Night Music Club" is definitely worth listening to. It isn't something you would dance to, but its funky mellow beat is perfect mood music for late night studying or just hanging out.

Versatility, the key to Material Issue

by Leo Bray
Staff writer

Material Issue - Freak City Soundtrack

Before you run out to your favorite artsy theater to catch the movie, a note: there is no movie. The title is an indication of the band's sense of humor, which extends to their music.

While at different times reminiscent of The Smithereens, Carter USM, Cracker, Possum Dixon or XTC, Material Issue manages to leave their mark. Perhaps they're enjoyable because of their vaguely familiar aspects, not despite them. Although the album could use more thematic variety — nine of the eleven tracks are about women — the group proves versatile in the

variety of song styles.

Of the nine female-based tracks, five are fantasies, three describe present relationships, and one pleads for the lady's love. The tone and emotion of each are spelled out by the amazing combination of vocal delivery and instrumental support. "One Simple Word", "Goin' Through Your Purse" and "A Very Good Thing" describe soured relationships, in the tradition of The Fools' "I Can't Keep My Mind on You" and Weird Al Yankovic's "One More Minute". "Eko Beach" is your standard "awaiting summer" song, and "Help Me Land" is a cry for regain of control.

Vocals are fine on all but the first track, which seems too much of a strain for the singer's vocal chords. The guitar oscillates between

mildly grungy and a simple backup line for the vocals. The drums are undoubtedly the master link which holds the group together throughout. They are perfect, in the sense that they are everywhere they are needed and nowhere they are not. "Kim the Waitress", which has been released as a single, is undoubtedly the album's best track, showing how dynamic the songwriting and performance are.

The tone of the songs ranges from wistful fantasy to fond reminiscence to angry desperation and pleading. Like an angry version of Squeeze, Material Issue addresses relationships which strike a familiar chord with many. Overall it is a fine party album, with enough variety to please most of the crowd and plenty of energy to keep the kids going.

Music Rating Scale

- * - No Show...
- ** - "I just want to be friends"
- *** - Blind Date
- **** - Breakfast in bed!
- ***** - Use your imagination!

"Most people are not even aware of their need to conform. They live under the illusion that they follow their own ideas and inclinations, that they are individualists, that they have arrived at their opinions as the result of their own thinking - and that it just happens that their ideas are the same as those of the majority."

- Erich Fromm

Polyester and poofy pompadours

by Diane Devitt
Strobe staff

A resurgence of the seventies recently occurred at FSC. No, I didn't walk into the faculty lounge; I attended a polyester-clad party.

Several students living off campus threw what I would consider the most original event of the year. A seventies party. Those who attended were required to don the traditional disco garb common to Saturday Night Fever.

Leisure suits, platform shoes, unbuttoned shirts with hairy chests, angel blue eyeshadow, Blondie wailing in the background. I felt like a youngin' again. One funky fella was sporting a very high and poofy pompadour.

I admit I went to this gathering a little unsure. Those who traveled with me refused to walk because "I don't want anyone to see me in my mothers pastel pink polyester skirt." Personally I was

afraid that we would be the only ones dressed for the occasion. Wow, was I proved wrong.

Prizes were given to the best garments. I don't know who won, but the outfit worn by the hostesses which displayed a colorful coordinated leisure suit of red and white butterflies won my vote.

The most fashionable male was simple but elegant in striking red polyester pants (creases intact) and a screaming green collar-bigger-than-the-man shirt. A gold chain was also furnished accompanied by brown love beads.

Two fringy females displayed the Laverne and Shirley dance while Christmas lights and a disco ball added to the smoky scene. I swear I thought Mrs. Roper came in wearing one of her motley colored muu-muus. It was only a resident.

Although I couldn't stay, I was there long enough to admire each outrageous fashion flashback. Everyone's going retro in the nineties, this idea just took it one step further. One Brady Bunch



clan clone suggested that "people were more relaxed in the seventies." Well, I can safely say that everyone was in good spirits at this gathering.

Maybe the whole idea of a theme party was taken from this

Charlie's Angels era. Whatever prompted the escapade, I hope there will be more theme parties to come. I encourage creativity.

Students will be challenged to come up with better ideas for topics and guests can strive for the

ultimate outfit. Add some spunk to the social scene. Standing around in your every-other-night jeans isn't as much fun as raiding the Salvation Army. It'll be Halloween all over again.

'Clifford' a precocious charmer

by John Caples
Contributing writer

"Clifford": *** (out of four)

Completed over two years ago, "Clifford" is the tenth or eleventh Orion Pictures film that was already in the can when Orion went bankrupt. It's too bad it wasn't released then, because it's the perfect antidote to those precocious kid movies like "Home Alone" and "Problem Child", and its dinosaur theme predates "Jurassic Park."

Directed by SCTV alum Paul Flaherty and starring SCTV's Martin Short, along with Charles Grodin, it's probably Short's best ever leading role. Short plays ten-year-old Clifford, a precocious, devious, sugar-hound of a kid. His parents dump him with his uncle

(Grodin) as they continue on to Hawaii. Clifford comes along just in time for Grodin to impress his girlfriend (Mary Steenburgen, the day care teacher at his company), showing her he really likes kids although he couldn't care less about them.

All Clifford wants to do is go to Dinosaur World (which turns out to be a hellish high tech Space Mountain), but Uncle Martin has a deadline for his current design project, a MagLev elevated railway for L.A. Grodin begins to reap the wrath of Clifford, who eats the largest amount of sugary foods ever shown on screen. He wreaks havoc on Grodin's life, and Grodin's comic talents are basically wasted playing straight man to Short.

Short plays his role like a

young Jerry Lewis, and he's never been better as a lead man. He cracks one-liners without a pause and is one of our greatest living physical comedians. You will completely be able to suspend your disbelief that the forty-three year old Short is playing a boy of ten.

In the end, the incensed Grodin takes Clifford to Dinosaur World, and the main ride at the park has to be seen to be believed. Grodin straps Clifford into a triceratops ride car, sending Clifford faster and faster through the ride and closer and closer to his impending doom. Be sure to catch this charming little comedy before it leaves the theaters.

Thanks to Loew's Theater in Leominster

"Blood, Sweat and Tears"

by Audra Johnson
Staff writer

"Blood, Sweat and Tears", written and directed by Zarinah Felton, was performed in Weston Auditorium on April 7.

The show was originally scheduled during Black History Month, but winter storms delayed the opening twice.

The two hour play reincarnated major events and Afro-American figures throughout

Black History. Equal rights, segregation, racial ethics, prominent movements and specific organizations were issues that the play focused on.

Felton gave brief descriptions of the scenes. The traveling actors performed events such as Rosa Parks refusing her bus seat to a white man and a Malcolm X speech before his enlightening trip to Islam.

Other reenactments included a

poetry reading at the Harlem Cotton Club and an Old Colonial Slave Church meeting.

"Blood, Sweat and Tears" compacted energy and powerful messages despite slight organizational problems. The show was supposed to begin at 8 p.m., but that was approximately when the first act ended.

Before coming to Fitchburg State, the play performed at local middle and elementary schools.

Audience smashes Pumpkins

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

The build up to the Smashing Pumpkins concert at the Wallace Civic Center on April 19 seemed to have taken a lot of the steam out of the audience once the show actually got under way.

Other than the mosh pit, which was wider and wilder than the one for Nirvana's appearance, the crowd seemed deflated. Whatever the reason may have been, it was in no part the fault of the band.

The Pumpkins' performance was superb and even rose above the poor acoustics of the Civic Center, which were put to the test during the pre-show film: a race between two souped up muscle cars. After this literally earth shaking, jugular vein quaking, sound-levels-developed-only-to-beat-the-crap-out-of-your-eardrums film was over, the opening band, Red Red Meat, took the stage. Their sound was based in rhythm, and was quite reminiscent of the Velvet Underground. They kept their set respectfully short and after a quick equipment change, Billy Corgan and Co. slouched onto the stage.

They played all the songs a fan going to their concert would want to hear and they played them with blistering energy. However, the audience's reaction was not up to par for what Corgan was looking for. He repeatedly assaulted the audience verbally for their lack of enthusiasm. This was in no way helped by a half-hearted call for an encore, which was noted by Corgan, who said to the audience, "Those of you who get this...thanks. And those of you who don't, never will," just before launching into an instrumental version of "Today." For those of you who don't know, the song starts off with the lyrics, "Today is the greatest day I've ever known." It obviously wasn't, not for Corgan anyway.

After the concert he did find it in his heart to sign a few autographs and talk to a few fans, but left at the first opportunity. Drummer, Jimmy Chamberlin refused to comment on how he felt the show went, but at least said it with a smile. And guitarist James Iha, who appeared visibly tired, was gracious enough to quote (sort of) from the Eagles' song "Take It Easy" when describing how he felt, "I been rollin' down the road blowin' my load. I got a world o' trouble on my mind...."





Starts Friday, April 29th

Announcements

Female Actors Needed There will be a casting call held on Wednesday, May 4th, at 5:00 p.m. in the T.V. studio of the industrial arts building (3rd floor, room 310). The project is a student film production sponsored by members of the communications/media department at FSC. This will be an audition open to any women interested, and it is highly recommended that those who are interested bring some of their own prepared material to present. If you have any questions, feel free to call Mark at 342-4511.

The winners of the Health Fair raffle prizes are: FSC Sweatshirt, donated by FSC bookstore: Carrie Christie; Radio, donated by Sears, Roebuck: Dave Dubal; Cooler, donated by Walgreens: Gerson Conan; and \$15 DAKA Certificate: Ruth Somero.

Applications are currently being accepted for 1994-1995 Judicial Board members. Applications are available at: Student Affairs & SGA. Deadline to submit an application is April 29th.

The Programs Committee will be sponsoring a Special Event on Thursday, May 5. "Bungee Running" will be held on the Quad from 3:30 - 7 p.m. For more info., call the Programs Committee office at 343-0644.

This is the last issue of The Strobe for the semester. The next issue will be out in September. Until then, good luck with finals and have a fun, relaxing summer.

Eyebeam



by Sam Hurt

EYEBEAM



by Sam Hurt

SGA awards given at Honors Convocation

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

The Student Government Association presented its awards at the annual Spring Convocation ceremony held on April 21. All awards are based on nominations submitted by the student body.

Dr. Elena Kyle and Dr. George Bohrer from the Communications/Media department were honored as Faculty Members of the Year. According to the president of SGA, Ed Puliafico, the decision was so difficult that the usual one award had to be broken down by sex.

Kyle was chosen for her extensive volunteer work and her help in

co-redesigning the FSC Graduate Program. Bohrer, who has been at the college since 1984, is currently the associate editor of the "COM*MENT Newsletter" and is formerly the advisor to many clubs on campus.

Holly Kriedler-Phaneuf received the newest award SGA had to offer this year, Administrator/Staff Member of the Year. She has organized Alcohol Awareness Week in October, the Smart Choices Peer Education Program, and many other substance awareness activities on campus. She is a member of the Substance Awareness Task Force and the Nursing Advisory Committee.

Senior class president Colleen Jackson was cited as the Student of the Year. Jackson served on SGA for four years and sits on several committees including the Campus Center Advisory Board and the Academic Policy Committee.

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) was chosen as the college's Organization of the Year. The club is recognized as the third top student chapter in the country from the national ABC office. The club featured many trips and guest speakers including the host of the PBS show "This Old House", Steve Thomas.

The Outstanding Senior Female, Katherine Doust, is an ex-

ecutive board member of Phi Sigma Sigma. She is also a founding member of that sorority as well as a member of Habitat for Humanity. Stephen Coerte VanVoorhis was honored as Outstanding Senior Male for his work in restoring the First Responders Team on campus. He also founded a chapter of Young Republicans and is active in Habitat for Humanity.

Current SGA president Ed Puliafico was recognized with the SGA Excellence Award for a male. Puliafico sits on several committees and is an resident assistant in the townhouses. Gennifer Taber, a senior class representative, was chosen as the

"SGA Unsung Hero" and the SGA Excellence Award for a female. She has helped to organize many fund raisers including the "survival kits" that are offered during exams.

Amy Kosiewski was honored as the Female Athlete of the Year for her performance on the field hockey team. She holds five school records and was the 1993 MASCAC Player of the Year. Aaron Abitz won the Male Athlete of the Year Award for excellence in hockey. He received the first ever shut out in FSC hockey history and in January was cited as the MASCAC Honor Roll Player.

Peer educators

by Danielle Ferzazza
Staff writer

In a nationwide poll at both two and four year institutions, thirty percent of college students surveyed said they would prefer to socialize without alcohol. In the same survey, the heaviest drinkers obtained the lowest grades. These are just a few tidbits of information one can learn from being a Peer Educator.

What is Peer Education? This program is a valuable and effective way for students to address ongoing

concerns about alcohol and other drug abuse affecting FSC.

FSC Smart Choices Peer Educators provide options and alternatives to students through educational workshops. They are presented in a non-threatening and open manner. It uses peer to peer influence as a tool to empower students to educate each other and create changes in the campus social environment.

Peer educators are trained in practical, marketable skills such as effective communication, time management, program development, and workshop pre-

sentation. These skills allow educators to confidently provide accurate information to the campus community through a variety of mediums including games, discussions, quizzes, competitions and role-playing. Working together as a team, Educators listen to, encourage and assist their fellow students in becoming aware of the choices they make concerning alcohol and drug abuse.

The Smart Choices Peer Education Program is just getting started. They have the office, the materials to work with, and the money necessary to get off the

ground. The only thing directors Holly Kriedler-Phaneuf and Eric Miller desperately lack are interested students.

Its goal is to create student generated options and alternatives to the drinking behavior on campus. A few OBJECTIVES are: Openness to change, B-building community, J-judgement, E-education, C-caring, T-teaching/self, I-interventions, V-values, E-environment/drug free living, and S-support for ourselves and others.

In order to be a Smart Choices Peer Educator one must be a full-time undergraduate in satisfactory

academic standing and have a desire to learn. The student must be comfortable educating others, be accepting of differences, and act as a good role model. One last criteria is the time commitment. Three hours a week is needed in order to volunteer for group events and share group responsibilities.

For an application and more information contact either Eric Miller or Holly Kriedler-Phaneuf in the Substance Awareness Office, room 217 Sanders Administration Building.

WITS fosters creative communities

by Kim Kerr
Contributing writer

Students, faculty and staff from Fitchburg State College participated in a Women in Today's Society (WITS) program entitled "Fostering Creative Communities: A Celebration of Women and the Arts" on April 14.

Carol Picard, a member of WITS, said that the day was "a way to celebrate people on campus." She read some of her own personal poetry dealing with the births of her children.

Michelle Pouliot, an English club student, read a poem about the death of her roommate and cousin from an automobile accident. Barbara Gee, a human service student, Christine Sosa of the International

Education Department and Lynne Wagner of the Nursing department read their poetry as well.

Carol Sickul, of the Physical Education Department, and Paula Davis Fiore performed a dance duet called "Holding True." They also performed dance solos.

Carol Sickul, dressed in a white silk slip, danced her solo entitled "Blanche Comme La Neige - White Like the Snow", using deer antlers as a symbol.

Paula Davis Fiore said that in her solo called "The Awakening", she used music that moved her while meditating and practicing with it.

Nicki Hey, the Vice President of the dance club, performed a

dance entitled "This is the Moment."

Amy Dobrian, of the Humanities Department, showed how making art is part of the creative process. She said that when she makes her art, she does not think of it as a woman's artwork.

Michelle Vitti-Lawton of the Career Services Office and Nikki Brownell of Academic Success showed how quilting is a part of the creative process. They said that it is "a woman's art," and a way for women to bring beauty into their lives and function.

Carol Picard of the Nursing Department said that she thought the day went very well and is hoping that they can make this program twice a year.

Drug cont from pg 1

ber who had an alcohol or other drug problem. Seventeen percent of the women surveyed indicated that they had been taken advantage of sexually while under the influence of alcohol or some other drug in the last year.

Male students reported drinking 14% more alcohol per week than female students. Close to three times as many men as women reported binge drinking three or more times over a two week period.

"Ideally we would like to have about twenty-five percent of our surveyed students to be in each class for accurate representation," said Kriedler-Phaneuf, explaining that only 7.3 percent of the surveyed students were seniors. "The results are limited in that way. We can't say that this is

definitely an accurate representation of all students at Fitchburg State College, but it gives us an idea."

The Core Drug and Alcohol Survey, which was used for this study, is one designed for use in a higher education population. The results of the survey were sent to the University of Minnesota where they were analyzed. The findings were sent back to the college where Kriedler-Phaneuf compared them to the national figures.

The study is part of a requirement for the college's drug and alcohol prevention grant which will expire at the end of next summer. The survey was conducted during one of the busiest class hours of the week to ensure that a large cross-section of students could be reached.

GOOD LUCK WITH FINALS!!!

Men's Track hosts MASCAC

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

The FSC men's track team hosts its first home meet in over two years on Saturday at 11:00am. Six state college teams will compete in the MASCAC meet including Worcester, Bridgewater, Framingham, Salem, and Westfield.

The Falcons are a small squad led by Co-captains Kris Theriault and Jason Desmarais. Though

numbers are not on their side, individual talent is.

At a meet on April 22 at Springfield College, the tracksters had another opportunity to qualify for the New England Division III meet against Springfield, Westfield State, WPI, and the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth. Theriault, the only All-American athlete at the college, qualified for the NCAA's with a javelin throw of 209'6" and won the event.

Falcons found another first

place in Junior Frank Legros who won the high jump and qualified for the Division III meet with a height of 6'5", a personal record. Senior Scott McCabe also won the pole vault and qualified for Division III with a vault of 12'5".

Desmarais took second place in the triple jump with 43'7", qualifying him for the Division III meet. Sophomore Derek Valcourt took fifth place in the high hurdles and qualified with a time of 16.0 seconds.

Falcon Football optimistic

by Owen Bard
Contributing writer

The Falcon football team has been working hard in the off season in anticipation for the upcoming 1994 schedule. Mandatory weight lifting and a spring running program will hopefully prove to be vital to the young team's success.

Head Coach Mike Woesner and Assistant Coach Shane Rodriguez have been traveling around New England and parts of New York in search of new recruits who can help the team. When asked what the main recruiting goal was in the off season, both coaches knew exactly what they were looking for.

"We're looking for people at the skilled positions, mainly on the offense," said coach Rodriguez. The skilled positions consist of

quarterbacks, runningbacks and wide receivers.

The hunt for the big men was curbed a bit because a solid nucleus will be returning from last season. There are pluses and minuses as far as the offensive and defensive lines are concerned. On the downside, the Falcons will sorely miss their four year starter at right tackle, Tom "tree" Murray. Tom's abilities and leadership were essential to the "new beginning."

On a more positive note, Co-captain, Mike Barry will return for his fourth season to once again lead a solid defense from the middle linebacker spot. The defense will become even stronger next season with the re-emergence of All-American Track star, Kris Theriault. With Barry, a veteran line and an even more experienced backfield anchored by Shaun "Pokie" Dann,

Fitchburg's defense should return as one of the best in the NEFC in 1994.

Coach Woesner should be happy with the returners on offense as well. Matt Ostrander leads a very young line. To give the offense some added punch, burner Matt Kiggins will bring his speed and catching ability to the offense. These players will be the building blocks to help the Falcons put a few more points on the board next season.

The team is now finishing its spring workouts and in four short months the eagerly anticipated season will begin. The 1993 Falcons, with a little luck, could have had a record of 5-4. But the team is using the could have been record for motivation. With a new attitude and a bunch of excited players and coaches, the 1994 Falcons are going to surprise a lot of people.

SPORTS NEWS

Donovan captures Player of the Week

Press Release

the bottom of the eighth to give FSC an 8-7 extra inning win.

This week the leftfielder/pitcher picked up where he left off, hitting a three run dinger in FSC's 5-3 loss to Mass Maritime. In the nightcap of that doubleheader, he polished off Mass Maritime in the seventh inning to earn the save for an 11-7 FSC victory. Joe Moran was also a big factor in the win with a triple and 5 RBI's.

Donovan's excellent play helped him earn MASCAC Player of the Week Honors. Meanwhile, sophomore Steve Baldassare is quietly going about his business hitting a whopping .375 with a team high 9 RBI's and 6 doubles.

Softball strikes back

by Kathy Herriot
Contributing writer

After a slow start due to the late arrival of spring, the Falcon Softball team began their season. In their first few games, they faced some strong teams. The women put up a good fight but in the end, came up short.

This past week, the Falcons came to life with their first two victories. On Tuesday they had a decisive win over Mass Maritime, putting them away in the fifth inning 22-2. This was a great win for pitcher Christine Roddy who got some great help from the defense behind her. Not only was the defense flawless, but quite obviously the bats came alive which was something the Falcons hadn't seen all season.

Wednesday, April 20, FSC

traveled to Endicott College in hope of bringing home their second win. This time Beth Poitras was on the mound and the birds got the win they so desperately wanted. Stacie Mawn, Noreen Weiner, Deana Lucas, Maria Lavita, Dianne Horwath and Eileen Laskey all contributed with big hits. FSC took home the win 11-7.

Due to the rough New England winter, these Falcons were not granted the luxury of practicing on a field. Instead, the team had to do most of their early season training indoors. This they feel is a big factor for their slow start. While other teams were getting in good practice time, the Falcons were abandoned to the doldrums of the Parkinson Gymnasium. But now that they are out of the gym and on the field, the women are looking to finish the season strong.

CAMPUS PIZZA and VARIETY would like to thank everyone at FSC and the surrounding community for their patronage and continued support throughout the year.

**Thank you!
Mike & Jimie**

Adaptations, an athlete's choice

by Michael Gordon
Strobe staff

As sure as death and taxes, and a daily walk through G-Lobby, students will be scurrying next fall to find out the last possible day for dropping or adding a course. They'll show up for the first class, read over the syllabus, and by the top of the hour be writing in the opscan number on the right side of one of those little white cards.

Their next move would be to find a course to fill the now vacant spot. And we all do it. We scan the course bulletin in search of the perfect average booster. You know, nothing too difficult, yet somewhat interesting. Attendance isn't mandatory and no presentations. Anything that will get us 3 credit hours closer to graduation.

Well, if you're someone in dire need of filling a hole in the math/science requirement, I have the perfect course for you; especially if

you're an athlete. It is called Adaptations, and it can be found under the biology section of Fitchburg State's biannual newspaper.

Adaptations is designed to integrate the natural and exercise sciences from the standpoint that survival of the organism depends upon its ability to adapt to a given environment. The acute and chronic effects of several stressors found within the environment such as oxygen, light, dark, exercise, heat, cold, emotional stress, altitude, nutrition and evolution are studied.

The stress elements are created in several ways. First of all, the treadmill and bicycle put in overtime in this course. Students are subjected to workouts on these machines in the cold of a New England winter and the heat of the Parkinson Gymnasium boiler room. What is examined here are the changes in blood pressure, oxygen intake capacity and exertion. Interesting enough? No, well read on.

Did you ever wonder, or truly understand why visiting teams have such a difficult time playing the Denver Broncos in Mile High Stadium? Then Adaptations is for you. Two hikes up Mount Watatic and a journey up Mount Monadnock can help answer the mystery behind the Broncos' impressive home record. Although a mystery it is not. Fun enough to red card yet?

So how does Adaptations benefit an athlete? Well, although genetics is an important variable in determining the success of an athlete, it's equally important for the active person to be aware of the human body and its capabilities, particularly their own, because every person has different abilities and disabilities. Therefore, an athlete must know what they can and cannot do, and design a program that works for themselves and not the one that works for the guy in "Muscle and Fitness."

"This course goes more in depth

than a health and fitness course," said Dr. Lee Cunningham, one of the course instructors. "As an athlete, you can become aware of your own personal needs, and design a fitness and dietary program based on what you've learned in the classroom and in the lab."

It's essential for an athlete to find out what it is they can work on in order to improve their overall performance consistently.

"Whether you're an aerobic athlete or say a football player, the type of workouts and nutritional needs will be different. This course can help you to determine those needs on an individual basis," said Dr. Cunningham.

Adaptations examines numerous systems in the human body. Whether it's cardiovascular, skeletal, or muscular, students leave the course knowing a lot more than when they entered.

Of particular importance to athletes is the study of nutritional as-

pects. Are you one of those people who lives by Joe Weider's rules of the necessity of protein overload to spawn muscle growth? All he's showing you is how to waste time and money.

How about fuel reserves, do you know what is stored for energy and where it goes? All this and more is taught in Adaptations.

However, by no means is this a "blow off" course. There is work to be done, but it's fun and it can provide an invaluable amount of knowledge for overall health in the future. Thus, this course can even be beneficial to the most sedentary person.

There is one minor problem though. Now that I've sparked your interest and you hockey players are dying to enhance your VO₂ max so that you can successfully defend your title next year, you'll have to wait until January to do so. The course is usually only offered in the spring.

Hockey intramurals season underway



by Michael Gordon
Strobe staff

be a walk in the park for the MGD team. They are stacked.



Shane Rodriguez will be the director of the league. Beardo, Dupe, Skit-whatit and Gatti will be the referees. Pokie and Slo-bar will work the clock.

The drop of the first puck was last Thursday afternoon. So by this time, the season is halfway over and this spot will not have the chance to let you know what happened. I could speculate, but I'll wait until next year just to remind the campus who the "real" champions are, once again.

Sports Spotlight: Mat Fallon

Nickname: Bat

Favorite Athlete: Jimmy Houston
ESPN Fisherman

Mat Fallon from Fitchburg is a Geography major who will walk across stage and receive his diploma in just a few short weeks. Before he leaves, he will take with him many memories as an athlete.

Upon his arrival from Fairfield High School, Mat wanted to play both baseball and basketball. He went on to do much more than that.

In his final year of eligibility, Mat was selected as a captain for the baseball and basketball teams. Mat's most memorable highlight as a Falcon will be the sweeping of North Adams, two years in a row.

"What we need to improve on is clutch hitting," said Mat. "Everyone can hit the ball pretty well, but we're not getting the hits when we need them most. I think we'll finish in the top three in the MASCACs."

Now that his career at Fitchburg has just about expired, Mat has the goal of attending graduate school in the near future. In the meantime, he has reflected on his stay at Fitchburg State College. "The small school allows for a lot of individual attention and I liked that the most."

